

## Pearls of Northern Transylvania - code Hu3.1RoCu

We invite you to **Live Transylvania** in all senses: **see** its traditions and Castles, **feel** its passion, **hear** its songs, **taste** its food, shake the hand of its craftsmen, and imagine its magic character. You will find yourself in the very place where Bram Stoker's novel and Coppola and Polanski's films placed Dracula's castle. You will experience all that you've been told in novels and films about **Transylvania....Live**.

### Day 1 Budapest - Satu Mare

Our English speaking guide welcomes the tourists at the airport. Depart to Satu Mare for accommodation and dinner in an exquisite environment.

**Module:** wine tasting in Tokaj, Hungary, the same wine drunken by A. Dumas's musketeers!

### Day 2 Satu Mare - Negresti Oas - Certeze - Sapinta - Sighet - Birsana - leud

We begin our day by visiting Open Air Museum in Negresti-Oas. We then head to Sapinta where we visit the Merry Cemetery and the highest wood church in Romania. Our next stop is a communist prison and The Monument of Imprisoned Thoughts in Sighet. Depart to leud for accommodation and dinner in traditional Maramuresean country-inns, in fact welcoming peasant houses. On the way we stop to visit Birsana Monastery.

### Day 3 leud - Bogdan Voda - Moisei - Sacel - Prislop - Voronet - Gura Humorului

Depart to visit the famous wood church in Bogdan Voda. We'll then arrive in Sacel and be the guests of the famous craftsman, Grigore Tulean. Drive to Gura Humorului for accommodation and dinner - enjoy the Bucovinean menu. On the way we stop to visit Moisei Monument and the Voronet Monastery.

### Day 4 Gura Humorului - Suceava - Marginea - Sucevita - Moldovita - Gura Humorului

From Gura Humorului we'll travel to Suceava, to visit the old Citadel and the Village Museum. We'll then head to Marginea for some shopping in the famous Black pottery Centre. The road will take us to famous monasteries Sucevita and Moldovita where we'll enjoy a monastic lunch. Accommodate in Gura Humorului.

### Day 5 Gura Humorului - Cimpulung Moldovenesc - Vatra Dornei - Piatra Fintinele - Bistrita

Travel to Transylvania. On the way we stop to visit The Wood Museum in Cimpulung Moldovenesc and the Hunting Museum in Vatra Dornei. Arrive in Borgo Pass, the place where Bram Stoker imagined and placed the castle of the famous Count Dracula; visit the castle and the coffin. Drive to Bistrita for accommodation. Here we'll visit The Dogarilor Tower with an interesting puppet exposition presented by the honorable Misiuga, Baron of Dracula and have a special dinner in Jonathan Harker Saloon, the hero of Dracula's novel.

### Day 6 Bistrita - Cluj Napoca - Turda

Arrive in Cluj Napoca and visit The Art Museum. Drive to Turda to see the Salt Mines and have a nice walk in the famous Turzii's Gorges Reservations. Accommodation in Turda, enjoy a special vampire menu for dinner.

### Day 7 Turda - Oradea

Riding along the valley of Aries we'll visit the Ethnographic Museum in Lupsa and have a special traditional picnic lunch in a spectacular environment at *Poarta lui Ionele* Cave. Crossing Vartop Pass we'll arrive in Crisurilor Land where we'll visit Bears Cave and the Open Air Museum with old cars and domestic objects in Chiscau. Drive to Oradea to visit Varadinum Citadel. Accommodate.

### Day 8 Oradea - Budapest

It is now the time to say good-bye to Romania. Depart for Budapest.



#### TIPS:

**Day 2:** Shopping session in a flea market in Satu Mare

Lunch in **Casa Iurca**, traditionally decorated restaurant in Sighetul Marmatiei with Maramuresean cuisine.

**Day 4:** Dinner in **Casa cu Pridvor** rustic restaurant in Gura Humorului with Bucovinean specialities.

**Day 5:** Enjoy a lunch in a special environment - the castle in Borgo Pass, the place where famous author Bram Stoker imagined Count Dracula's Castle!

**Day 7:** Relaxing evening in the outdoor swimming pool with thermal water of your accommodation.

**Modules:** - Extend the trip with one day so you can enjoy a night in Hungarian Ketpo Castle, the place where many scenes from the famous English Patient Movie were filmed.  
- You can have a special meal and a Budapest city tour!

**Accommodations:** three nights in 3\* hotels, three nights in 4\* hotels, one night in traditional country-inn, in fact welcoming peasant house (one bathroom for two rooms).

**Includes:** transfer from/to Budapest airport, accommodation 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches

(Monastic lunch in Moldovita Monastery and a picnic lunch at Poarta lui Ionele Cave) and 5 dinners (welcome dinner, special dinner in Jonathan Harker saloon in Bistrita - a live band is performing in the restaurant, traditional Maramuresean dinner in leud, dinner with special vampire menu, dinner with a Bucovinean menu), English speaking guide

**Transportation:** by coach, minibus or car - air conditioned, depending on the number of travellers.

**Entrees to:** Open Air Museum Negresti Oas, Merry Cemetery in Sapinta, Sapinta Monastery, The Prison of the Communist Victims in Sighet, Birsana Monastery, Bogdan Voda Church, Craftsman Workshop in Sacel, Moldovita Monastery, Voronet Monastery, Suceava Citadel, Village Museum in Suceava, Sucevita Monastery, Dracula's coffin in Borgo Pass, Dogarilor Tower in Bistrita, Wood Museum in Cimpulung Moldovenesc, Hunting Museum in Vatra Dornei, Art Museum in Cluj Napoca, Salt Mines in Turda, Turzii's Gorges Reservation, Ethnographic Museum in Lupsa, Bears Cave in Pietroasa, Open Air Museum in Chiscau.

## Treasure of Transylvania - code Hu3.2RoCu

Transylvania was named Siebenburgen (*seven boroughs*) because of the first boroughs built by the Saxons in the area. Boroughs and fortified churches had been built all along the middle ages, some of them existing even nowadays: Alba Iulia, Sibiu, Biertan, Sighisoara, Brasov, and Bran. In the streets of these cities, designed for carriages and coaches, true live museums - you will find the atmosphere of romances and vampire tales.

### DAY 1 Budapest - Oradea

Our guide welcomes you at the Budapest Airport and leads you in Oradea for dinner and accommodation. You'll cross the old centre of the town or the Varadinum Citadel as it was called in Latin.

### DAY 2 Oradea - Bears Cave - Girda - Turda

From Oradea you'll travel to Bears Cave which got its name from the skeletons of some very old species of bear that were found here. Visit the Open Air Museum in Chiscau with its old cars and domestic objects. You'll then cross the mountains through Vartop Pass and enter Motzilor Land. Here you'll have a nice traditional picnic lunch at the entrance of *Poarta lui Ionele* cave. Depart for Turda to visit one of the most beautiful and original salt mines in the world - Turda's Salt Mines.

### DAY 3 Turda - Turzii's Gorges - Lazarea

Your day begins with a nice challenging walk through Turzii's Gorges, the most important Reservation in the Apuseni Mountains! In Targu Mures you'll visit Teleki Palace. Cross Seklers land, admire on the way the noble castles Lunca and Iernut, and stop in Lazarea, a typical sekler village for dinner and accommodation in country-inns.

### DAY 4 Lazarea - Red Lake - Miercurea Ciuc - Brasov

In Lazarea you'll visit the castle of the noble family Lazar and the monastery near by. You'll then head to Red Lake also called Killer Lake and in the area we can have a nice easy walk through Bicazului Gorges. On the way to your accommodation in Brasov, you'll visit Ciucului's Sekler Museum in Miercurea Ciuc and The Museum of Mineral Water in Tusnad. Have a special medieval dinner in "Citadel" a restaurant in Brasov.

#### TIPS:

**Day 2:** Try a vampire menu for dinner in an exquisite restaurant in Turda!

**Day 6:** In Sighisoara you can enjoy your lunch in a special location - Casa Vlad Dracul Restaurant, the place where Vlad Dracul, the father of the one who bares the stigma of the bloody count Dracula, was born!

**Modules:** - Extend the trip with one day so you can enjoy a night in Ketpo Castle, the place where many scenes from the famous English Patient Movie were filmed.  
- You can have a special meal and a Budapest city tour!

**Accommodation:** four nights in 3\* hotels, two nights in 4\* hotels, one night in country-inn, (one bathroom for two rooms)

### DAY 5 Brasov - Sinaia - Rasnov - Bran - Brasov

Today is castles day! The first one on your list is Peles, the most beautiful royal palace in Europe, and then you'll cross the mountains to visit Bran Castle also known as Dracula's Castle. Absorb a genuine rustic atmosphere while visiting Rasnov Peasant Citadel. Drive to Brasov for a traditional dinner with folk show and wine tasting.

### DAY 6 Brasov - Fagaras - Agnita - Sighisoara - Biertan - Medias - Sibiel - Sibiu

Travel to Fagaras to visit the citadel and the Museum of Fagaras Country. Explore the most beautiful citadel in Europe, Sighisoara! Visit here the Clock Tower, the Torture room and The Medieval Weapon Collection. Depart for Biertan to admire the fortified church. In Medias you'll make the acquaintance of the only artist who uses spider web for his paintings. Travel to Sibiu, for accommodation. Carriage ride from Sibiel to Mioritica country-inn for dinner.

**Module:** Attend a witch trial set on the street like in the old days!

### DAY 7 Sibiu - Deva - Arad

Sibiu welcomes you with the famous Bruckental Museum, a baroque edifice which houses the works of some famous artists, such as Rubens, Van Dyck and the largest ethnographic museum in Transylvania - the Village Museum. Drive to Hunedoara and visit Corvinestilor Castle, continue with the castle in Savarsin and end the road in Arad for accommodation and dinner.

### DAY 8 Arad - Budapest

Before saying good-bye to Romania you'll visit the historic centre of Arad and the beautiful Art Museum. Depart for Budapest.

**Includes:** transfer from / to Budapest airport, accommodation, 7 breakfasts, 1 picnic lunch at Poarta lui Ionele Cave and 6 dinners

(3 special dinners in: Mioritica country-inn, medieval dinner in Brasov Citadel and a dinner with wine tasting and folk show in Carpathian Stag Restaurant Brasov), English speaking guide

**Transportation:** by coach, minibus or car - air conditioned, depending on the number of travellers.

**Entrees to:** Bears Cave in Pietroasa, Salt Mines in Turda, Turzii's Gorges, Lazarea Castle, Ciucului's Sekler Museum in Miercurea Ciuc, The Museum of Mineral Water in Tusnad, Peles Castle, Bran Castle, Rasnov Peasant Citadel, Museum of Fagaras Country, Clock Tower, the Torture room and The Medieval Weapon Collection in Sighisoara, Fortified Church in Biertan, Spider web painter in Medias, Brukental Museum in Sibiu, Village Museum in Sibiu, Corvinesti Castle in Hunedoara, Savirsin Castle in Savirsin, Art Museum in Arad.